

Pleissa House  
SM-690  
23038 Three Notch Road (MD 235)  
California vicinity  
Circa 1948  
Private

The Pleissa house was most likely built *circa* 1948 following the establishment of the Patuxent Naval Air Station (NAS) earlier in the decade. Prior to the formation of NAS, the county's economy was primarily based upon agriculture (tobacco) and fishing, and very little modern development was evident in this portion of the state. In 1940, the population of the Bay district was 1,287; by 1950 it had increased nearly five-fold to 10,575. With this tremendous influx of workers in so short a period, residences were constructed near the base, and later spread to outlying areas along Three Notch Road (MD 235); intense modern commercial development has occurred within the past decade, further transforming the landscape.

This 1.5 - story gable-roof house is a common example of a mid-twentieth century Cape Cod dwelling. Typical features of this style include a side gable roof with front-facing gable dormers and a symmetrical main elevation with central entry. The Cape Code style frequently employed Colonial Revival details such as paired multi-pane double-hung sash, dentil moldings, pilasters, and decorative window sills and lintels. These dwellings were constructed primarily during the 1940s and 1950s and the popular form was repeated throughout the suburban subdivisions built following World War II. Cape Cod style houses in the APE include the Guy House (SM-683), the Lancaster House (SM-684), the Smith House (SM-685), the Errington House (SM-678), the Aldridge House (SM-679), the Pleissa House (SM-690), and 22240 Three Notch Road (SM-702).

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-690

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Pleissa House

### 2. Location

street & number 223038 Three Notch Road (MD 235) \_\_\_\_\_ not for publication

city, town California \_\_\_\_\_ X vicinity

county St. Mary's

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name John E. Pleissa

street & number 113 Three Notch Road telephone

city, town California state and zip code MD 20619

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse tax map and parcel 34/78

city, town Leonardtown liber and folio EWA574/263

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research report at MHT  
☐ Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government		
		<u>X</u> health care		
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry		
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape		
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/ culture		
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
		<input type="checkbox"/> social		
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress		
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown		
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use		
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:		

Number of Contributing Resources  
previously listed in the Inventory

0

## 7. Description

Inventory No. SM-690

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The residence (presently used as a dental office) at 23038 Three Notch Road (MD 235) is located approximately 50 feet east of the road in an area characterized by mixed residential and commercial uses. Several mature trees and shrubs surround the house and a one-story shed is situated southeast of the dwelling. A semi-circular gravel driveway extends around the rear (east) side of the property.

The 1.5-story rectangular building is covered with stucco and has an asphalt shingle gable roof with two gable-roof dormers in the west slope of the roof and a single dormer in the center of the east slope. Gable-roof entry porches are located in the west and east elevations. Wood clapboard sheathes the north and south gable ends of the building and the gables of the entry porches. An exterior brick chimney rises along the south side of the building. Windows throughout the house consist primarily of one-over-one double-hung sash and have brick sills

The west, or main, elevation contains a central entry (with gable-roof entry porch and brick steps) flanked on either side by a tripartite picture window consisting of a central fixed sash and one-over-one double-hung sash and brick sills. The dormers, covered with vinyl siding, each contain a single one-over-one window. The south elevation contains four single one-over-one double-hung windows: two flank the chimney at the east end and two are located at the west end. A set of paired windows is located in the gable end. The east elevation contains five bays in the first story (south to north): a single one-over-one window, a door with gable-roof entry porch and brick steps, a set of paired one-over-one windows, and two single one-over-one windows. The central dormer includes a single one-over-one double-hung window. The north elevation contains two sets of paired one-over-one windows in the first story and a similar set of windows in the gable.

The shed (either concrete block covered with vinyl siding or of frame construction) has an asphalt shingle gable roof and a brick exterior chimney on the north side of the building. A door and a six-light casement window are located in the west elevation.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. SM-690

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> maritime	
			<input type="checkbox"/> history	
			<input type="checkbox"/> military	

**Specific dates** Circa 1948 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual).

The Pleissa House was most likely built *circa* 1948 following the establishment of the Patuxent Naval Air Station (NAS) earlier in the decade. Prior to the formation of NAS, the county's economy was primarily based upon agriculture (tobacco) and fishing, and very little modern development was evident in this portion of the state. In 1940, the population of the Bay district was 1,287; by 1950 it had increased nearly five-fold to 10,575 (Hammett 1991:491). With this tremendous influx of workers in so short a period, residences were constructed near the base, and later spread to outlying areas along Three Notch Road (MD 235).

This 1.5 - story gable-roof house is a common example of a mid-twentieth century Cape Cod dwelling. Typical features of this style include a side gable roof with front-facing gable dormers and a symmetrical main elevation with central entry. The Cape Code style frequently employed Colonial Revival details such as paired multi-pane double-hung sash, dentil moldings, pilasters, and decorative window sills and lintels. These dwellings were constructed primarily during the 1940s and 1950s and the popular form was repeated throughout the suburban subdivisions built following World War II. Cape Cod style houses in the APE include the Guy House (SM-683), the Lancaster House (SM-684), the Smith House (SM-685), the Errington House (SM-678), the Aldridge House (SM-679), the Pleissa House (SM-690), and 22240 Three Notch Road (SM-702).

It is unlikely that historic or prehistoric archeological resources are preserved on this property. The extensive disturbance typically associated with construction during the last 50 years is likely to have displaced any archeological resources that may have been on this property. Similarly, commercial and residential development in the vicinity make the survival of archeological resources on adjacent properties unlikely.

Historical documentation does not indicate that this resource is associated with Criterion A, broad patterns of history or a significant event or Criterion B, an important person who contributed to local or state history. The property does not embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction nor does it represent the work of a master or possess high artistic value; therefore, Criterion C, architecture, does not apply. Lastly, the property is unlikely to yield information which contributes to our understanding of human history. As a result of recent modern development in the immediate area, the property lacks integrity of association, feeling and setting. The conversion of the dwelling for use as a dentist office have compromised its integrity of design, materials, workmanship and location.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments:	
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	9/28/98
Reviewer, NR program	Date
<i>[Signature]</i>	11/16/98

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. SM-690

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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### HISTORIC CONTEXT:

#### **MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA**

Geographic Organization:

Southern Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Modern Period A.D. 1930 - Present

Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category:

Building

Historic Environment:

Urban

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Dwelling

Known Design Source:

None

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. SM-690

Hammett, Regina Combs. History of St. Mary's County, Maryland, 1634-1990. Ridge, MD (privately published), 1991.  
Hughes, Elizabeth. Final Report - St. Mary's County Historic Sites Survey. Valley Lee, St. George Island, Bay and Patuxent Districts. St. Mary's County Department of Planning and Zoning, 1995.

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 3.11 acres  
Acreage surveyed 3.11 acres  
Quadrangle name Hollywood, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 78, Map 34, Grid 23

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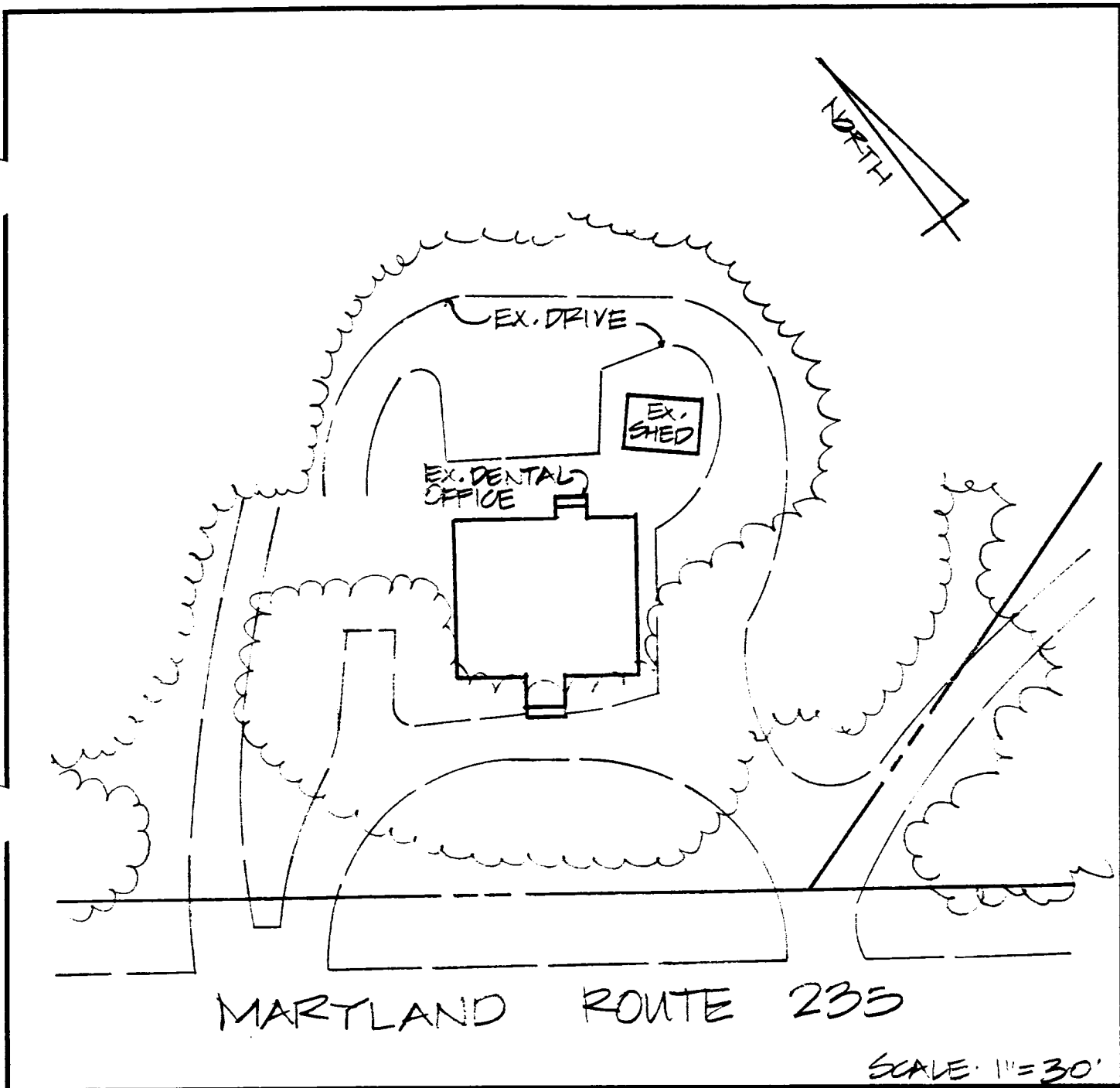
## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Margaret B. Parker		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	7-21-98
street & number	10 North Park Drive	telephone	410-316-7857
city or town	Hunt Valley	state and zip code	MD 21030-1888

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032  
410-514-7646



SM- 690  
Pleissa House, 23038 Three Notch Road  
California Vicinity, St. Mary's Co.  
Resource Sketch Map

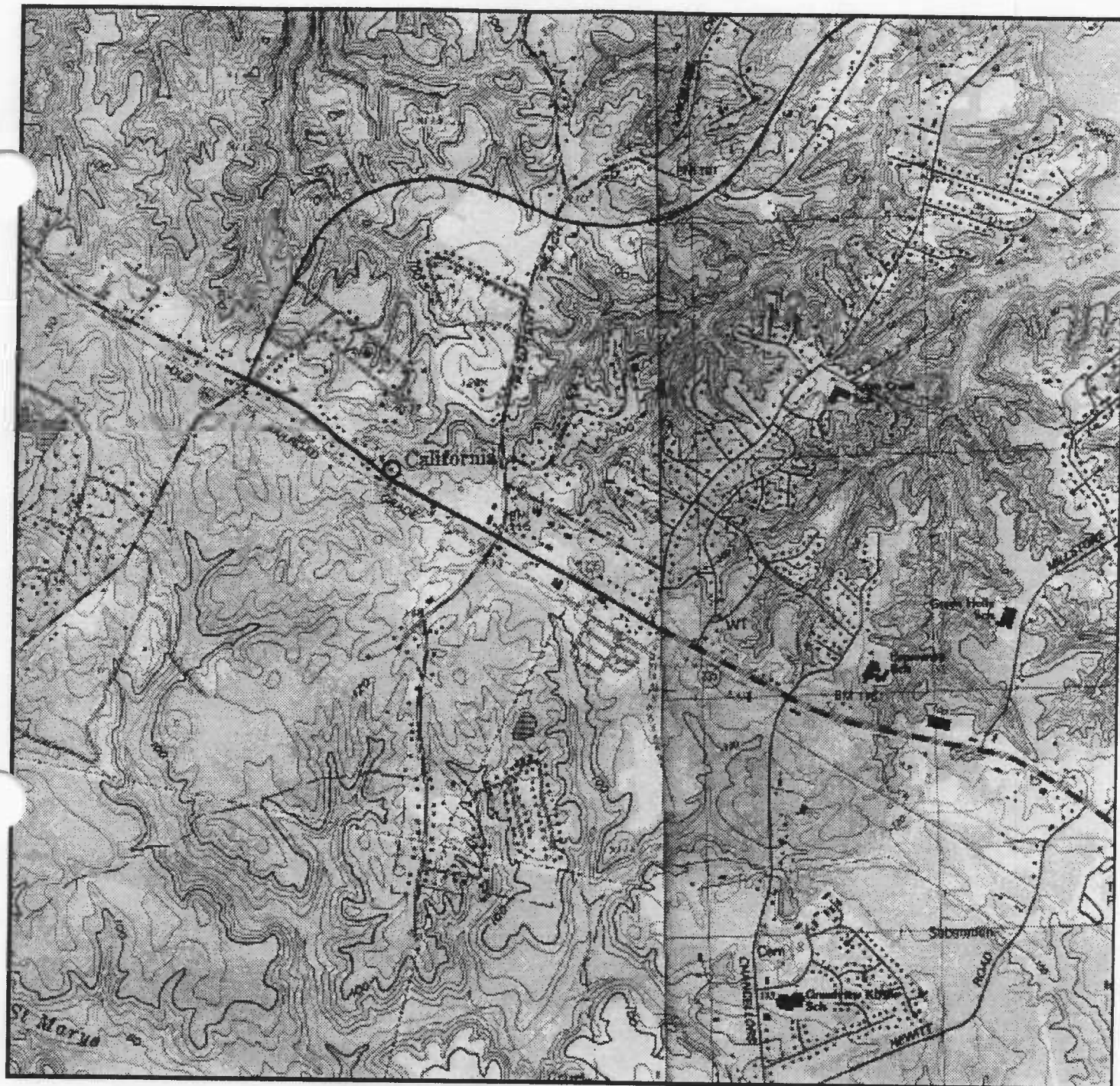


MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY  
ADMINISTRATION

10 NORTH PARK DRIVE  
HUNT VALLEY, MD 21030  
410-316-7800

MD 235: MD 4 to MD 246  
St. Mary's County, MD

BCS 95-17A



**SM- 690**

Pleissa House, 23038 Three Notch Road  
 California Vicinity, St. Mary's Co.  
 Hollywood, MD USGS Quad  
 1963 (Rev. 1984); Solomons Is., MD 1987



**MARYLAND STATE HIGHWAY  
 ADMINISTRATION**

10 NORTH PARK DRIVE  
 HUNT VALLEY, MD 21030  
 410-316-7800

**MD 235: MD 4 to MD 246  
 St. Mary's County, MD**

**BCS 95-17A**

Scale: 1"=2,000'





SM- 690

St Marys Co.

Margaret Parker

7/22/98

MD SUPO

W elev. looking E

1 of 4



SM- 690

SA Marys Co

Margaret Parker

7/22/98

MD SHPO

E + N elev. looking SW

2 of 4



SM- 690

St Marys Co

Margaret Parker

7/22/98

MD SHPO

S + E elev. Looking NW

2 of 4



SM-690

St Marys Co

Margaret Parker

7/22/98

MIS SHPO

S elev. of shed looking N

4 of 4